

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-15, 17, and 20-25 are pending in the present application, with claims 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 25 being independent.

Interview Summary

Applicant's representative would like to thank the Examiner, Marceau Milord, for the interview that was conducted on August 31, 2004. During the interview, it was agreed that Applicant would amend the claims to recite "device controller," in an effort to clarify the cited features of the presently pending claims. The Examiner agreed that such an amendment would overcome the cited prior art.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15, 17, and 20-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chern* et al. (US 6,456,854) in view of *Chern* (US 6,609,005). This rejection is respectfully traversed insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims.

As noted above, the Examiner agreed that by amending the independent claims to recite "device controller" that such an

amendment would overcome the cited prior art. Thus, because Applicant has amended claims to clarify that the controller is a device controller, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Dependent claims 2-5, 9-12, 17, and 24 should be allowable at least for depending from an allowable base claim.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, this application appears to be in condition for allowance and the Examiner is, therefore, requested to reexamine the application and pass the claims to issue.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Martin R. Geissler (Reg. No. 51,011) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

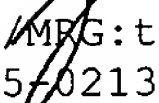
required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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